# MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

## 8 NOVEMBER 1983

### Syria

Military Mobilization — Syria has decided to call up its reserves, an official source announced in a statement reported by Damascus television. Call-up messages broadcast by Damascus radio signaled the start of a general mobilization while the Armed Forces were placed on a state of alert, according to AFP and Radio Monte Carlo. Meanwhile, commentaries on Damascus radio and television warned of an imminent U.S. military operation directed against Syria, citing the U.S. military buildup in the eastern Mediterranean as proof of American intentions. Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas briefed the Cabinet on the military situation and stressed Syria's ability to repulse "any aggression, regardless of its nature," according to the radio. It also noted that Israel has ordered a large mobilization of IDF reserves, although *THE JERUSALEM POST* said Israel has already notified Syria of its planned military exercise and conveyed assurances that no attack is planned. UN observers said Syrian forces on the Golan Heights were behaving normally, according to Jerusalem radio, and one UN officer described *MA'ARIV's report that Syrian soldiers have been clearing* minefields as "nonsense."

The Libyan People's Foreign Liaison Bureau, in a statement broadcast by Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio, declared that Libya will assist Syria with all its capabilities if the latter is subjected to "aggression" by the United States and its allies. The Libyan statement also appealed to the other Arab states to support Syria militarily.

Al-Asad-Andreotti Meeting — During talks with Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, President Hafiz al-Asad "deplored what is happening among the Palestinian brothers," adding that Syria has exerted "great efforts" to help the Palestinians solve their differences but that "a well-known side has complicated and escalated matters," Damascus radio reported. While Syria remains committed to the Palestinian issue, it distinguishes between a stand on an issue and one on individuals, Al-Asad added. The Syrian leader also voiced satisfaction over the results of the first round of the Lebanese National Dialogue Conference in Geneva and warned Andreotti that an overly hasty withdrawal of Italian troops from Lebanon might prove "harmful," according to ANSA.

### PLO Affairs

North Lebanon Situation — Forces loyal to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat withdrew heavy weapons from the Al-Baddawi camp into Tripoli in the face of continuing attacks around the camp, an advance by dissident forces, and continuing artillery and rocket barrages, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, a Cypriot Government statement reported by the Nicosia publication *O FILELEVTHEROS* announced that Cyprus would provide transit facilities for any Palestinian fighter or refugee fleeing Tripoli.

Palestinian Radio — The dissident-controlled radio first heard as an unidentified station using the frequency formerly used by North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio announced that it is broadcasting from that radio's Turbul Mountain transmitting station, which dissident forces captured from pro-'Arafat forces.

Palestinian Statements on Fighting — Fatah dissident leader Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha called for talks with 'Arafat, stating that the dissidents "do not want to prosecute 'Arafat and expel him from Tripoli," Damascus radio reported. The radio also reported a statement by the general command of the dissident forces reiterating that pro-'Arafat forces in the northern Lebanon refugee camps started the battle by opening fire on dissident forces. In the wake of "recurrent provocations," the dissidents were "forced" to reply in order to "silence the sources of fire" and "wipe out its perpetrators." Meanwhile, a responsible dissident source cited by the radio stated that the dissident forces "will spare no effort to save the people" of Tripoli from the "sedition," adding that they had promised former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami and other Lebanese national forces they would confront "the sedition in the north."

Amman radio reported that Palestinian groups in Jordan, in a memorandum to Al-Asad via the Syrian Embassy in Amman, condemned the "massacres" perpetrated by the "Syrian and Libyan regimes." The report was denied by the embassy which said in a statement, cited by SANA, that a Palestinian delegation had visited the embassy and expressed understanding of the Syrian position but that no memorandum was submitted.

Contacts on Fighting — Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf met with a special Soviet envoy in Tunis and received a message from the Soviet leadership to 'Arafat, the Amman paper *AD-DUSTUR* reported. Meanwhile, the PLO envoy in Rome reported that at 'Arafat's behest he had presented a request for Pope John Paul II to intervene on behalf of the Palestinian people, according to AFP.

Fatah Central Committee member Khalid al-Hasan went to Kuwait and then on to Doha to discuss the Palestinian issue with Gulf leaders who are attending the GCC summit conference, KUNA reported. During its 7 November session the summit held contacts with Arab leaders to discuss the need for quick action to stop the fighting in Lebanon, WAKH stated. WAKH said that a "high-level" delegation comprising representatives of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Tunisia, and Algeria will begin mediation attempts with a visit to Damascus on 8 November. In other contacts with Damascus, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and the PDRY all sent high-level officials to relay messages to Al-Asad, according to Damascus, Algiers, and Aden radios.

## Lebanon

Renewed Fighting — U.S. Marines and Lebanese Army soldiers exchanged fire with gunmen in the Beirut area and several cease-fire agreements failed to stop the fighting, according to Beirut radio. Marine positions at the airport came under shellfire and some shells also fell near U.S. warships, Voice of Lebanon radio said.

Further south, rival militias clashed in the Al-Kharrub region early on 8 November, the radio reported.

Southern Lebanon — Cities and villages in southern Lebanon adhered to the call for a general strike to protest Israeli practices and the closure of the crossing points, Beirut radio reported.

Iranian Protest — The Iranian Foreign Ministry blames the French forces in Lebanon for the recent attempt to blow up the Iranian Embassy in Beirut with a car-bomb, according to Tehran radio.

Political Developments — The Command Council of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces, in a statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon, blamed Syria for the recent bomb attacks on U.S., French, and Israeli forces and warned that attempts to reconsider the Lebanese-Israeli agreement will lead to the return of Syrian control over Lebanon. Earlier, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, 37 parliamentary deputies affirmed the Chamber of Deputies' "insistence on the implementation of the 17 May agreement and nondiscussion of its abrogation or freezing before a serious alternative becomes available" to secure Israel's withdrawal.

## Iran-Iraq War

A communique broadcast by Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces in the northern zone captured several more heights, killing or wounding more than 800 Iraqis. A communique carried by Baghdad radio reported the attack, but said that Iraqi forces "destroyed" the Iranian forces involved, inflicting "heavy losses" in men and equipment.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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## USSR October Revolution Anniversary Commemorated

### Karmal-Keshtmand Message

*LD061941 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Nov 83*

[Excerpts] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, have addressed the following message to the USSR leaders on the occasion of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] anniversary:

Comrade Y.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Comrade N.A. Tikhonov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers: We have the pleasure to express the sincerest and warmest congratulations of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Government, all Afghan people, and ourselves on the occasion of the GOSR anniversary to you, dear comrades, and in this way to the Leninist CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Soviet Government, and all fraternal Soviet people.

At this critical time facing mankind, we express our resolute support for the peaceful initiatives of the Soviet Union and the contents of the statement by Comrade Y.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which are indicative of a sincere desire for maintaining peace, preventing nuclear war, and of reviving the atmosphere of detente and active cooperation in international affairs.

Relations between the people of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union are a symbol and an auspicious exercise in fraternal friendship and reciprocally disinterested fruitful cooperation. The current year corresponds to the 5th year of the Friendship, Good-Neighborliness and Cooperation Treaty between the DRA and the USS, dated 5 December 1978. Similar to our Soviet friends, we attach great importance to this important document which reflects the high level of relations between our countries and our people, and we are ever ready to spare no effort toward implementing the dictates of the treaty and its enrichment with a new specific content. We are profoundly grateful for the Soviet Union's all-round internationalist aid and its support for the people of Afghanistan and its revolution.

May the fraternal and friendly relations and the fruitful cooperation of good-neighborliness between the DRA and the USSR be consolidated and expanded in the interest of the peoples of our countries and peace throughout the world. Please accept our sincerest wishes for further success, prosperity, and the health of, personally, dear comrades, Y.V. Andropov and N.A. Tikhonov, and for the advancement and new victories of the great Soviet people.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council; Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers

### Ziray Speech

*LD070549 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] Kabul, November 6, BAKHTAR — A gala meeting was held here today jointly by the Central Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), the Revolutionary Council, the Council of Ministers of the DRA and the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society to commemorate the 66th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR].

Speaking on the occasion, Saleh Mohammad Ziray, member of Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, said that all the revolutionary, progressive and freedom-loving forces including the PDPA, have taken advantage of the militant experiences of Great October Revolution in their struggles for attaining their lofty objectives. The hostile efforts of the enemies of peace, democracy and social progress devoted to distort the substance of the Great October Revolution, to weaken its international significance and to obstruct the revolutionary transformations were doomed to complete failure.

S.M. Ziray added that the successes scored by the Great October Revolution and the world socialist system resulted in the overthrow of colonial system of imperialism which meant another qualitative change in the history of mankind. This fundamental change in the balance of powers in the world in the interest of social democracy and progress provided the favourable external conditions for the triumph of glorious April revolution in Afghanistan. The national and democratic April revolution and progressive revolutionary transformations in other emancipated countries in the 70's inflicted a stunning blow to world imperialism and constitutes a major factor for the ever-further expansion of anti-imperialist struggle in the region. Therefore, as it has been pointed out in the basic documents of the PDPA, the April revolution is a component part of the contemporary world revolutionary movement.

The assistance of the Soviet Union and its impact on the socio-economic growth are consolidating the pillars of our national economic independence, the speaker went on.

For example, the political and economic assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to DRA has strengthened the political and economic independence of the country and has enabled it to effectively resist imperialist dominations. This constitutes the most important impacts of the valuable Soviet assistance to Afghanistan. The unfettered economic assistance of the Soviet Union has strengthened the state sector of the economy and has laid a strong and unshakeable foundation for the creation of an independent economy.

The treaty of friendship and good-neighbourliness and cooperation concluded on December 5, 1978 between the two countries exemplify the promotion of friendship to a high level of brotherhood between the two countries. This treaty is considered to be a most significant step in the ever-further consolidation of Afghan-Soviet friendship. Dr. Ziray emphasized that when the April revolution was subjected to the aggression of the enemies and the country was confronted with the undeclared war of

imperialism and reaction, the party and the state of the DRA requested the assistance of the Soviet Union in defending its national independence and territorial integrity.

Following its internationalist policy, it was on the basis of this request that the Soviet Union sent its limited troops to Afghanistan to help the Afghan people in their fight against the undeclared war launched by regional reaction and imperialism.

The meeting was attended by Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers, Nur Ahmad Nur, member of Politburo and the PDPA CC, members of the Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers, representatives of the social organisations, peasants and workers as also religious leaders and diplomats of friendly countries stationed in Kabul.

### Various Meetings

*LD060551 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 6 Nov 83*

[Text] Kabul, Nov 5 BAKHTAR — A number of state production enterprises held meetings on the occasion of 66th anniversary of Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR] here today.

The speakers at these meetings expressed their gratitude for the selfless assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to Afghanistan and expressed confidence that the friendly and fraternal relations between the two countries will ever-further expand. Meanwhile they condemned the ignominious intervention of the United States and other imperialist countries and reactionaries in the internal affairs of the DRA.

The speakers emphasized that the valorous people of Afghanistan headed by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) successfully proceed towards the construction of a new, humane and prosperous society free from the exploitation of one individual by another.

Similar grand meetings were held on the same occasion in the Provinces of Nagarhar, Jowzjan, Bamian, Faryab and Baghlan.

The speakers at the meetings also spoke on the significance of the friendly and fraternal relations existing between the two countries.

They said that the 60 years of the selfless friendship has proved that the friendship between the two countries has come out successfully from the test.

### Storey Palace Meeting

*LD062037 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Nov 83*

[Excerpt] To mark the 66th anniversary of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, a grand meeting was held this afternoon by the PDPA Central Committee, the Revolutionary Council, the DRA Council of Ministers, and the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society in the Storay Palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Political Bureau member and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Saleh Mohammad Ziray and Nur Ahmad Nur, members of the Political Bureau and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee; members of the Political Bureau and of the PDPA Central Committee; members of the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Council of Ministers; responsible officials and representatives of Kabul city social organizations and Party officials; Fikryat A. Tabeyev, Soviet ambassador and representative extraordinary to the DRA; and ambassadors and political representatives of friendly countries in Kabul took part in the gathering.

## Soviet Reinforcements Reportedly Arrive

*LD042052 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1730 GMT 4 Nov 83*

[Text] Islamabad, November 4 (TANJUG) — A new Soviet troop contingent arrived in Afghanistan last week, claim sources in Kabul quoting a report by the MOUDJAHID PRESS NEWS AGENCY of Peshawar.

The Soviet reinforcements totalled 30,000 troops, they said. These troops were deployed in border provinces facing Iran and Pakistan and in the Kabul area, they added.

The sources claim that the number of Soviet troops in Afghanistan has reached 180,000 and that fresh reinforcements are likely soon.

Moudjahedin sources say Soviet and government troops are soon to launch their winter offensives in almost all parts of the country.

## Karachi Reports on Mujahidin Activities

### Garrison Attacked

*BK051614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Nov 83*

[Text] On Wednesday last, Afghan mujahidin reportedly took control of the strategically important (Peshighar) hill, 4 km east of the besieged Arghun Garrison in Paktia Province, Afghanistan. The Arghun Garrison is now within the direct firing range of the mujahidin.

On the same day, the Afghan mujahidin also attacked a military convoy at (Zarghai), 15 km southwest of Khost in Paktia Province and destroyed an armored vehicle and a military vehicle. They captured a military vehicle and 13 rifles.

### 'Strong Resistance' Cited

*BK080639 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] Reports received from Afghanistan speak of strong resistance in the country's eight provinces. Those provinces include Badakshah, Kabul, Parwan, Takhar, Paktia, Qandahar, Faryab, and Balkh.

It is reported that Afghan mujahidin have laid mines and suddenly attacked military posts, security patrols, and military convoys. Various cantonments in these provinces have come under mortar and rocket attacks.

Soviet-Karmal troops are constantly on the move as the mujahidin attacks do not allow them to stay at one place. The mujahidin attack posts at random, forcing the Soviet-Karmal troops to come to aid for each other by moving from one post to another.

**'Counterrevolutionaries Hideout' Seized**

*LD071829 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] The security forces and a group of revolution defenders recently discovered a hideout of the counterrevolutionaries in Qara Bator village, 'Ali Abad District, Konduz Province.

According to a report by Qonduz Province security forces, 8 DSHK, along with 211 boxes of ammunition; a large quantity of explosives with their cables; two medium-range mortars and one automatic with 48 mortar shells; 3 electric rocket launchers along with 48 shells, one recoilless gun; one [word indistinct] with its chemical material; 91 antitank mines; 50 antipersonnel mines; 4 (?Zekoiar; 22 assorted weapons along with 2,000 rounds of ammunition; and a quantity of documents and leaflets; 3 loudspeakers; a camera; and a quantity of foodstuff were seized from these nests of the enemies of the revolution.

According to another report, a rebel band, these traitors to the homeland, people, and revolution, who were disrupting the peaceful life of the toiling people of the Bati Kot Subdistrict, Shinwar District, Nangarhar Province, was crushed yesterday by the defense of the revolution group of the subdistrict.

**AFP: Estimated 10,000 Attend Dhaka Rally 7 November**
*BK0711645 Hong Kong AFP in English 1620 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Excerpts] Dhaka, Nov 7 (AFP) — Thousands of people attended rallies in Dhaka today to demand an end to martial law and a return to democracy as the country observed "national solidarity and revolution day" in celebration of the anniversary of assassinated President Ziaur Rahman's coming to power in 1975.

An estimated 10,000 people flocked to Gen. Zia's grave in the capital's Sher-e-bangla Nagar district, where his widow Begum Khaleda Zia and six leaders of the deposed Bangladesh Nationalist Party [BNP] addressed a rally.

Begum Khaleda Zia drew cheers when she told supporters at Gen. Zia's grave that she would remain in the BNP — founded by her husband — to fight for democracy and to realise the policies and ideals of the late president.

She urged military ruler Lieutenant General Hussain Mohamad Ershad to accept the five-point charter of demands drawn up by a major 22-party alliance, and said the opposition would campaign relentlessly for their goals.

Begum Zia also demanded the release of all political prisoners, including her party's former ministers and leaders convicted by martial law courts. Otherwise, she said, the party would be "forced to get them freed from jail."

Other speakers also heavily criticised Gen Ershad, among them former Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman and BNP Secretary General and former Deputy Prime Minister Badruddoza Chowdhury.

After the rally, Begum Zia led a huge procession through the city until night fell.

### Leaders Send Greetings on Soviet Anniversary

*BK071644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Excerpts] In Moscow, the traditional military parade was held today to mark the 66th anniversary of the October Revolution. The president and the prime minister have sent messages of greetings to the Soviet leaders on the occasion.

In his message, Giani Zail Singh said the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries is in the interest of the two peoples and world peace.

In her message, Mrs Gandhi said the cooperation and the ties between India and the Soviet Union have developed steadily over the years, contributing to world peace and stability.

### Prime Minister Sends Letter to DRA President

*BK080951 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] India's ambassador to Afghanistan, Mr J.N. Dixit, called on President Babrak Karmal in Kabul yesterday. He handed over a letter from the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, to the Afghan president.

### Incidents, Injuries Result From Jammu Strike

*BK071630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] In Jammu, a number of Congress-I and Panthers Party workers are reported to have been injured in some incidents during the 1-day bundh [strike] today. Almost all shops and business establishments remained closed in Jammu city. The All-India Radio correspondent reports that buses and taxis were off the road. The bundh had been called to protest against the disturbances created by antinational elements during a cricket match in Srinagar last month and the alleged discrimination by the state government against Jammu division. The police lathi charged and detained a number of demonstrators including several members of legislative assembly [MLA] in police lines.

Briefing newsmen this evening, the state minister for information, Mohammad Shafi, said only one MLA, Mr Rangil Singh, was injured in the stone throwing. He said 186 persons, including 11 legislators, have been taken into custody since yesterday. Mr Shafi said that about a dozen policemen were injured in the incidents. He also maintained that no one was injured in the lathi charge. The minister charged the Congress-I of attempting to destabilize the conditions in the state.

Meanwhile, the Congress-I general secretary, Mr Mangat Ram Sharma, has alleged that over 40 supporters of the Congress-I, including Mr Rangil Singh and Mr Janak Raj Gupta — both MLA's — were injured in the police lathi charge. He said over 700 workers, including a number of MLA's were arrested.

The Panthers Party also alleged that several of its workers were arrested.

Talking to newsmen, the chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, criticised the call for the bundh and alleged that the Congress-I was trying to topple his government.

The divisional commissioner of Jammu told out correspondent a short while ago that the government has ordered the release of all political leaders and workers detained in connection with today's Jammu bundh. They include Mr G.L. Dogra, MP, and about a dozen legislators of the Congress-I. He said now only some antisocial elements are in police custody.

### 14 Killed, 60 Injured in Assam Railway Explosion

*BK080323 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] At least 14 persons were killed and 60 injured in a bomb explosion in Gauhati railway station last night. According to agency reports, nine died on the spot and five in hospital. The deaths included a policemen, a woman, and her baby. The injured had been admitted to hospital. The conditions of many of them were reported to be serious. The entire station has been cordoned off.

The Assam chief minister, Mr Hiteshwar Saikia, has expressed deep concern over the incident.

#### AFP Report

*OW071916 Hong Kong AFP in English 1854 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Nov 7 (AFP) — At least 13 people were killed and 60 others injured when a bomb exploded at one of the crowded railway station platforms in Gauhati, capital of troubled Assam State, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported.

In a dispatch from Gauhati, PTI quoted police as saying that the bomb, fitted with a time device, exploded with a deafening sound at a main extrance of the platform number one. The entire area was rocked in the blast which took place shortly before an express train was to leave from there. Police cordoned off the entire area and started a thorough check on all stationary trains at the station, PTI said.

However, there was no immediate indication about who was responsible for today's incident, which came after a lull for the past several weeks.

Assam Chief Minister Hiteswar Saikia condemned the bombing as "dastardly act" of violence in a message.

Police said preliminary investigations showed the unknown miscreants had left a bundle of gellatine sticks, fitted with some time fuse.

PTI said movement of trains through Gauhati had been suspended following the incident.

Meanwhile, All Assam Students Union and Assam People's Action Council, co-sponsors of the protest movement, today

decided on fresh plans to resume the campaign, PTI said. The agency learned that the two bodies at a joint meeting decided to call for state-wide road blockade on Friday and Saturday next as part of the new programme to press an early solution to the problem of foreigners. They also planned a "blackout" on Friday. The new action programme was to concide with a two-day visit of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the troubled state, the agency said.

Student body representatives during a visit here recently had hinted at resuming the movement and warned the federal government of Mrs Gandhi that it would be solely responsible for any situation arising out of such an eventuality.

### Advisory Council Ends Foreign Policy Debate

*BK080725 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] The Federal Advisory Council completed its 3-day debate on foreign policy today. Winding up the debate, the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, reiterated that the essential features of the foreign policy are aimed at safeguarding and consolidating national sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the country. He declared that Pakistan will never accept any limitations on its sovereignty and would never waver in the pursuit of an independent and nonaligned policy wedded to principles and strongly based in Islamic character and noble traditions of our nation.

The foreign minister reaffirmed the country's scrupulous adherence to the policy of nonuse of force, nonintervention and noninterference in the affairs of others, and said it is expected all other states to observe the same principles.

He said Pakistan's firm commitment to these principles was manifest in the position it had adopted against foreign intervention in Grenada. In the Security Council and General Assembly, Pakistan stood with those who took a clear and unambiguous stand on the matter on principles. He said Pakistan called for immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from the island as it had done in the case of Afghanistan.

He stressed that Pakistan's nonalignment had stood the test of time and it has been proved that the country's bilateral relations with the United States did not in any way derogate from Pakistan's position as a nonaligned country.

On Afghanistan, the foreign minister said Pakistan would continue its efforts for a comprehensive political settlement of the problem. About the violation of Pakistan's airspace by the Kabul regime aircraft, he assured the members that the restraint demonstrated by the Pakistan Government was not due to weakness or lack of vigilance. The violations have been brought to the attention of the United Nations, a protest has been lodged, and a warning given against any further incursions.

About Kashmir, the foreign minister said a just and honorable solution of this dispute is essential to the establishment of peace and cooperation between Pakistan and India on a durable basis. In this context, he referred to the Simla Agreement in which also the two sides have pledged to seek a peaceful settlement of the question of Kashmir.

Referring to the concern expressed by the members about the statements of Indian Government leaders on Pakistan's internal affairs and certain unacceptable activities allowed and encouraged by the Indian Government, he said the Pakistan Government has taken prompt action to convey its protest to New Delhi over these violations of universally recognized principles.

About Pakistan's nuclear development program, he reaffirmed that it was entirely peaceful in nature and Pakistan has no intention of acquiring or manufacturing nuclear weapons.

Refferring to the suggestions by some members for the establishment of collective security arrangements among Islamic states, the foreign minister recalled the proposal of the president in this respect at the first extraordinary session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in January 1980 and said it was under active consideration of an experts group set up by the secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference.

### MRD Plans Solidarity Week 6-12 November

*GF071437 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 3 Nov 83 p 1*

[By correspondent]

[Text] Lahore, 2 November — MRD General Secretary Malik Mohammad Qasim said that according to the decision of the MRD Central Committee, a national solidarity week will be observed all over Pakistan from 6-12 November, during which time the MRD also will convene protest meetings and marches in the districts. On 12 November, there will be processions and meetings in every corner of the country. He made this announcement while addressing a press conference here today on his return from a tour of Sind.

He said: Every member of the MRD has been asked to participate and no excuses will be accepted. Answering a question, he said: If the government does not adopt a repressive policy, the MRD will carry out a peaceful campaign and more people can court arrest during the national solidarity week. He blamed the government for being the cause of violence, including the Sind disturbances and the stoning of the lawyers procession in Lahore. He also complained that all those MRD members who present themselves for arrest are taken to police stations instead of jails where they are mistreated and false cases are filed against them. He denied that the MRD campaign was confined to Sind alone.

### Peshawar Student Leader Urges School Reopenings

*GF071405 Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 28 Oct 83 p 10*

[Text] Peshawar, 27 Oct — Fakhrul Islam, organizer of the student body organization, Jami'at-e Tulaba Peshawar University, has called on the provincial government to reopen all educational institutions. He regretted the fact that the educational institutions in the province have remained closed for the past 8 months. He attributed this to the inefficiency of the provincial administration and warned that the students will not tolerate the continued embargos and restrictions place on them. He also warned that if this state of affairs continues, the students will be forced to take active steps to end it.

Referring to the communist and antisocial student bodies in the country, Fakhrul Islam said that the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy is backing efforts to create unrest among the students. He said that the student bodies sponsored by such discredited political parties cannot help the students and that these very same parties engineered student unrest in the past, which resulted in closing down of educational institutions at Peshawar University and in other parts of the province. Fakhrul

Islam said his organization, the Jami'at-e Tulaba, opposes all such antisocial bodies which create conditions that result in disruption of education. He said his organization will continue to oppose any moves in future that exploit the students under slogans of helping them.

Fakhrul Islam said his Jami'at-e Tulaba is quite capable of handling situations and recalled that his organization, despite the restrictions placed on all organizations, had forced the authorities to withdraw the order expelling 36 students from various colleges in the province and that it was his organization that had made possible the reopening of the Agricultural University College and the local medical college.

## NAWA-E WAQT Praises Politician's Proposition

*GF071302 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 1 Nov 83 p 3*

[Editorial: "Suitable Proposition"]

[Excerpts] After a prolonged silence, the former president of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan, announced at a press conference that the conditions in the country are deteriorating rapidly and if a solution is not soughi the water will rise above our heads. He also presented a formula for the peaceful delegation of power and announced that he will make a countrywide tour to meet with politicians and people from a cross section of society and discuss his formula. During this tour, he also will speak to the imprisoned politicians.

We will not discuss Sardar Qayyum's formula at this juncture, but we would like to state that there are few people who enjoy the simultaneous confidence of the people and government and Mr Qayyum belongs to this category of people, which has been able to solve problems on a national level between the government and politicians in an appropriate manner.

Besides, since he belongs to Azad Kashmir, we cannot say that his loyalties lie with any particular province or party, and his patriotism and nationalism are above reproach.

There is no doubt that the president has had discussions with the country's leading politicians and he knows full well that all political parties are unanimous on the demand that restrictions on political parties be removed, political activities be restored, the 1973 Constitution be reinstated, and central and provincial elections be held in 1984.

Our most cordial request to the government and politicians is to avail themselves of the good services of Mr Qayyum so that a way may be found out of the present political crisis. If the government decides to accept his proposals, he is ready to cooperate with the government in seeking a solution to the problems.

We are confident that President Zia will accept his offer and we pray that Sardar Qayyum's mission will be successful.

## MASHRIQ Views India's 'Mischief'

*GF021710 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 21 Oct 83 P3*

[Editorial: Indian Plots Unraveled]

[Text] The opening of the Sindhi world convention in New Delhi by Indian Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi herself is a hateful mischief and an extreme act of maliciousness. When you add to it the words which were said in connection with annexing Sind to India in the same convention, then there remains no doubt that the Indian ruling leadership has decided to openly create mischief in Sind and the active saboteurs in Sind are being instigated and supported by India.

Arrangements for this convention were made by Achari Bhagvan Dev, a parliament member of the Indira Congress Party. In his speech to the convention, without mincing words, he said that the time has come for this part of Pakistan to be made a part of India so that the Sindhis of both countries could work together for their common goal of improving themselves.

The *INDIAN EXPRESS* has published a supplement in this connection in which one of the headlines in Sindhi says, "Long Live Sind." This supplement also carries messages of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and President Zail Singh. A photograph of Achari Bhagvan Dev appears most prominently in the paper. It is said in the supplement that the main aim of the convention is to pinpoint the problems which are being faced by the Sindhis. It is also stressed in the supplement that a permanent Sindhi center should be set up in New Delhi. In fact, interference in the domestic affairs of Sind has openly been made in India at the official level.

Pakistan has proof that India has started its hostile intervention in the domestic affairs of Pakistan. Moreover, the Janata Party leader Dr Subrahmaniam Sawami, on his arrival in Bombay from Islamabad, said that President General Ziaul Haq had shown him positive proof of Indian intervention in the domestic affairs of Pakistan and he is greatly concerned over the fact that about 3 months ago the Government of Pakistan had shown this proof to Mr Natwar Singh, secretary, Ministry of Foreign affairs of India, and the Indian Government so far has issued no denial. Dr Subrahmaniam said the Government of Pakistan has proof of Al-Zulfiqar headquarters being transferred to New Delhi and the saboteurs now being held have confessed that they have the backing of India. Moreover, a number of persons affiliated with the Al-Zulfiqar organization possess Indian passports.

Proof of Indian intervention in the domestic affairs of Pakistan are so evident that even Dr Subrahmaniam has openly admitted that the Indian Government does interfere in the domestic affairs of Pakistan. However, the Indian Government itself, by holding the world Sindhi convention in New Delhi, also has left no doubt in the fact that it is impatient to repeat the 1971 drama for Pakistan.

These facts should open the eyes of all those political circles who insist that the agitation in Sind is only for the restoration of

democracy in Pakistan. In actual fact, a majority of Sindhis have remained aloof from this movement. A very small group of agitators call this movement an agitation in such a way as to make foreign intervention possible. In any case, this so-called Movement for Restoration of Democracy could not win public support either in Sind or in any other part of the country. Even in Sind now, this movement has subsided.

Now when this minigroup of agitators, who were active in their saboteur activities at the instigation of India, are licking their wounds, the Indian ruling party by holding this convention in New Delhi is trying to give new life to this dying movement. The Indian Government has let the cat out of the bag and its role in the Sind agitation is no longer a secret. Now, not only in Pakistan but throughout the world it is known who is pulling the strings of this movement. It is clear that this movement is not for restoration of democracy but it is meant to unite the Pakistani Sindhis and Indian Sindhis to work together and improve their lot.

It is also now clear that Mrs Indira Gandhi has been blaming Pakistan for interfering in East Punjab simply to cover her plot to annex Sind to India. She says she supports the Movement for Restoration of Democracy because she supports democracy and she thinks it is her duty to raise her voice when rights of people are being trampled upon in a country. However, the leader of the Janata Party, Dr Subrahmaniam, refuses to take her claim as support for democracy. He says if she is such a trailblazer of democracy then why does she not demand democracy in the Soviet Union; and besides why is she so silent on the open destruction of the rights of the Afghan people?

We do not think the claims of supporting democracy become Mrs Indira Gandhi. She has completely destroyed minority rights in India, and the civilized world, including Pakistan, simply on the basis of the principles of nonintervention and diplomatic norms, has not raised its voice on this shameless destruction of human rights.

Nevertheless, the leaders of these minorities and the moderate elements in India have more often than not taken Mrs Indira Gandhi to task for destroying democracy and human rights in India. Dr Subrahmaniam has clearly said that the Sikh problem in East Punjab is a creation of Mrs Indira Gandhi herself. In order to win Hindu votes she does not allow the Sikh problem to be solved. The president of the Akkai Dal, Harchand Singh Longowal, has accused Indira Gandhi of crying in vain over breaches of human rights in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, while in India itself there is no end to tyranny which she is perpetrating against the Sikhs. He said Sikhs in India have the same status as Blacks in South Africa.

With this background, the picture that Indira Gandhi has painted of her support for democracy and the human rights appears so shameful that it does not suit her to shed crocodile tears over the Sindhi people and hold a convention in New Delhi to support them. In addition to crushing the oppressed class in her own country, she has fallen into the habit of exercising her hegemony over the smaller countries of the region. It is on this account, to quote Dr Subrahmaniam, that the problem of the Sikhs in East Punjab does not seem to be solved and, on the other hand, India's relations with its neighboring countries have reached the worst possible stage.

## Newspapers Examine Gulf Problems, Hormuz Closure

### 15 October THE MUSLIM

*GF011816 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 15 Oct 83 P 4*

[Editorial: "Gulf War and New Threats"]

[Text] Iran's threat to seal off the Hormuz Straits and block the flow of oil to the West if Iraq were to attack Iranian oil installations with the Exocet missiles-fitted Etendard bombers acquired from France has provided an opportunity for the U.S. to implement its paranoiac design to spread its military tentacles to crucial points in the eastern hemisphere. A naval task force of the U.S. United Command (formerly known as the Rapid Deployment Force) comprising three warships, including an amphibious assault carrier, with 2,000 Marines on board has moved out of the Mediterranean on its way to the Indian Ocean where the U.S. has a massive force at the Diego Garcia naval base. The unified command already has bases in Egypt, Oman and Bahrain.

The U.S. is not the only country perturbed over Iran's announcement of its intent to seal the Straits of Hormuz in the event of deployment of the fearsome French bombers by Iraq in the Gulf war. Saudi Arabia and other oil bearing states in the Gulf region are also rattled as the closure of the Hormuz Straits would stifle their commercial interests, and Riyadh as a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has said that in such an eventuality the GCC will have the right to defend navigation in the Gulf. As the fabulously rich Saudi Kingdom and the Sheikdoms and Emirates in the GCC are not military powers, they too will probably seek American assistance or ask for help from some other Western country to fight their battle when the crunch comes.

In the three-year old Iran-Iraq war which has so far taken a heavy toll of life on both sides and almost crippled the economy of the two countries locked in gory battle, Arab sympathies, except those of Syria and Libya, have lain with Iraq, and their financial support to Baghdad has kept its guns booming. The U.S., which has never taken kindly to Iran ever since the ouster of the former Shah, now appears poised to jump into the fray in conjunction with France, if need be. This casts an ominous shadow on the security of the entire region, and if better sense does not prevent an escalation of the conflict, and the other superpower is sucked into it, the whole world may get embroiled to trigger another global war.

The bleak prospect of having to endure the freezing cold of the coming winter if American homes and offices have to go without furnace oil to keep them warm, may not be the only factor for the present concentration of the U.S. forces in the region. America's ambitions to emerge as the policeman of this strife-ridden planet and hold the world to ransom also seems to have come into play. Or else the U.S. could have played the good

samaritan, prevented the sale of Etendards to Iraq and worked as a peace-maker. The Arabs joining hands with Iraq have all along been apprehensive of the radical character of the Iranian revolution, and therefore appear ready to gang up with other major powers to forestall the export of Iran's Islamic revolution to their imperialist lands. Had it not been so, they would have taken meaningful steps to work for an end to the Gulf war instead of throwing their petro-dollars in to fuel the raging fire of the conflict.

The revolutionary government of Iran is not known to squirm under pressure from any quarter or to give in to the gunboat diplomacy of military giants and renounce its resolve once its mind is made up. Any serious escalation of the conflict does not promise to pay any dividends whatsoever to the belligerents, or to those who have taken sides with Iraq. It will only establish the supremacy of the U.S. over the entire region where it is rapidly entrenching itself as a horrendous military power. Wisdom demands an urgent equitable settlement of the Iran-Iraq dispute before all initiative is allowed to pass into the hands of the intruding superpower. It is a moment for rational approach to the perilous situation by the regional countries whose freedom seems likely otherwise to be wholly eclipsed. Justice demands that the aggressor is identified, reparations are paid to the aggressed through negotiations, peace in the embattled countries is restored, and the new threats to the region are foiled before any more time runs out.

### 13 October MASHRIQ

*GF041344 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 13 Oct 83 p 3*

[By political commentator Dr Abdussalam Khorshid]

[Text] If the news report that France has delivered to Iraq five Super Etendards that can reach Iranian oil installations and fire Exocet missiles which hardly ever miss their intended targets and that have operational capability proved in the Falklands war, then it is quite possible that whenever these aircraft are used in operations, Iran will close the Strait of Hormuz. This waterway links the Persian Gulf to the Indian Ocean. It is through this waterway that 20 percent of the world's oil is transported. Some of this oil is destined for Western countries but most of it goes to Japan, and it is through this waterway that Japan gets 90 percent of its oil needs.

Iran repeatedly has threatened in the past few days to block this waterway and it would be foolish not to take Iran's threats seriously. Western observers have said that Iran has sent a destroyer from Bandar 'Abbas toward the strait and that Iranian forces are being concentrated near the Strait of Hormuz. It is also said that the United States has sent an aircraft carrier toward this region. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the United States, Britain, and France may challenge closure of this waterway by military means. If this happens, then the war will expand.

French military experts say that the Iranian threats are not serious and they could hardly put these threats into effect because technically and militarily it is difficult to block the 25-mile wide waterway. Besides, this blockade would harm Iran itself because it would prevent the export of Iranian oil. An official of the French Foreign Ministry said that it would be a suicidal action on the part of Iran.

However, one can see concern in Western countries on the probable results of a blockade. The International Energy Agency in Paris has said that if in addition to this there is a cut in Nigerian oil output, then oil prices will treble. Some other organizations are of the opinion that the price of oil will at least double and that industrial output in the Western countries will decline by 30 percent. Moreover, the developing countries will have to cut their exports and they will also have to pay more to meet their oil requirements. This will result in a shortage of ready cash and they would not be able to pay their debts.

The ensuing difficulties might prevent Iraq from using the Super Etendards. It is also said that the pilots who will fly these aircraft will have to undergo a further 3 months' training. Another report says that the aircraft may not be sent fully assembled. They may be sent in parts by sea. To assemble the aircraft and to make them fit for use plus the 3-month pilot training period means that the crisis is being put off for the time being. This is being done to put diplomatic pressure on Iran to get it to agree to peace.

### Soviet Union Offers Oil Drilling Equipment

*GF041310 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 13 Oct 83 p 8*

[Text] The Soviet Union has agreed to provide Pakistan with necessary equipment to promote oil and gas industries in Pakistan. This has been revealed in G. (Krystev's) report. This decision was made after talks between Rao Farman Ali, minister of petroleum and natural resources, and the Soviet authorities.

It should be recalled that Rao Farman Ali visited Moscow at the beginning of this month. In the course of this visit, he met and held talks with Geology Minister Yevgeniy Kozlovskiy, Gas Industry Minister Vasiliy Dinkov, and First Deputy Minister of Petroleum Industry Valeriy Igrevskiy. He also held talks with the Soviet State Committee on External Economic Relations. The report also said that talks were held on expanding cooperation in the exploration of Pakistan's mineral resources as well as the status of oil and gas sectors which have been developed with Soviet aid.

## NEPAL

### King, Queen Set To Visit U.S. in December

*BK071648 Katmandu External Service in English 1450 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] Their majesties the king and queen will pay a state visit to the United States of America from the first week of December at the invitation of President Ronald Reagan. This was stated in a notice issued today by the principal press secretariat of his majesty the king.

## SRI LANKA

### Anura Bandaranaike To Lead Opposition

*BK021113 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] Anura Bandaranaike, the sitting member of Parliament from Nuwara Eliya-Maskeliya, has been proposed as the leader of the opposition by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party. This decision was taken at a meeting of the group held in Colombo yesterday.

Mr Bandaranaike told the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation this morning that this decision was also conveyed to all other members of the opposition.

Anura Bandaranaike was first elected to Parliament in the July 1977 general election. It is hoped that the opposition leader will be appointed today when Parliament meets. The vacancy for leader of the opposition occurred due to the continued absence of Mr. A. Amirthalingam, leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front in Parliament, for a period of 3 months.

### French Forces' Attempt Against Embassy Protested

*LD0071757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] Following the terrorist attempt by French forces in Lebanon to blow up the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Beirut, the charge d'affaires of the French Embassy in Tehran this afternoon was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and handed a letter of protest. The text of the letter is:

In His exalted name. The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran states to the French Embassy in Tehran that at midnight last night the Iranian Embassy in Beirut was the target of an inhuman plot hatched by French forces stationed in Lebanon in contravention of international standards and regulations. At 0100 on 7 November 1983, the French forces parked a jeep containing 500 kg of explosives next to the Iranian Embassy in an area called Janah in Beirut and covered it with a canopy bearing the Red Cross emblem. However, because of the alertness and resistance of the guards of the Iranian Embassy, the French forces left the jeep containing the explosives and fired at it from 100 meters with missiles, intending to blow up the embassy. But, thanks to God's blessings and assistance, no explosion occurred and that terrorist attempt was foiled.

Considering the point that for the last 2 weeks the Iranian Embassy has been under surveillance by French forces, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran holds the French Government completely responsible for this attack on the Iranian Embassy in Beirut, condemns this terrorist action, and declares its strong protest against it; it will hold that country responsible for any possible future incident.

In the hope of the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors.

### Seizure of Iran Air Offices Called 'Revengeful'

*LD0081028 Tehran IRNA in English 0904 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 8, IRNA — As a revengeful reaction to the victorious Val Fajr-4 operations which were fully effective in disconnecting the link between the Baghdad regime and the splinter groups gathered in Kordestan, as well as in crushing counterrevolution's bases in Kordestan, the Fedayeen Khalq guerrillas (the minority group) has now transferred its head offices to European countries.

Coordinating their acts of sabotage with Western mass media, and being supported by security forces, members of this minority group embarked on taking over offices of Iran Air in a number of European capitals as well as in New Delhi.

In all such cases the so-called "guerrilla operations" would come to an end and the seizure would be ended after the incident being fully covered by imperialist mass media.

So far, the French news agency and Baghdad's state-owned radio and news agency have shown interest in such events more than others.

In a report on the seizure of the Iran Air bureau in Vienna, Austria, the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY gave a detailed report on the destruction of the office equipment by the insurgents and referring to the incident as a prelude for autonomy in Kordestan said that Iranian Kurds would announce the characteristics of their self-r...ed government in the next few days.

Although the French police hesitated to arrest the assailants to Iran Air's office in Paris, providing them the opportunity to escape the scene, Indian police arrested 14 insurgents when the same incident happened in that country.

Of course, a number of Muslim brethren gathered on the scene to protest against the seizure of the Iran Air bureau in New Delhi were also arrested by the police.

In Paris, the insurgents who had enough time to flee, distributed pamphlets condemning the explosion at the U.S. Marines and French forces headquarters in Beirut and allegedly attributing the incident to Iran.

Meanwhile, the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) taking advantage of the situation, broadcast a detailed report on the seizure of Iran Air's office in London, Paris, Vienna and New Delhi.

It should be noted that simultaneously with this move, the interferring French forces in Lebanon prepared an aborted plot against the Islamic Republic's embassy in Beirut.

### Khamene'i Says Iraqi Destruction 'Imminent'

*LD0080452 Tehran IRNA in English 1914 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 7, IRNA — "The Iraqi regime, in its confrontation with the Islamic forces, has reached its weakest position and its destruction is imminent," said President Ali Khamene'i here today.

The president who was speaking to a group of visitors including personnel of the revolutionary foundations and Ulema of the Saveh (?Theological) School, further added that the Iraqi regime resembled an ill person in death bed, whose death was being postponed by a few hours, through blood transfusion.

According to reliable information, he added, there is rebellion inside the Iraqi armed forces, the significance of this disobedience becomes greater when it is compared to the high morale of the Iranian forces.

Referring to Iraqi air and missile attack on the civilian areas of the Iranian cities, President Khamene'i said that the enemy by committing such acts wanted to wear down the Iranian people, however, it has not yet realised that the people of Iran were fighting because of their religious obligation and would not be affected by such actions.

Directing his remarks on the people of Iran, he said that people of Iraq were expecting assistance and added that support and aids

of the Iranian people to the warfront was also meant as an assistance to the people of Iraq. He concluded that in the light of the strong revolutionary will of Iranians, the enemy and the counterrevolution would not be able to harm the Islamic revolution of Iran.

**Joint Headquarters Issues Communique No 23**
*LD071801 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Communique No 23 of Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Last night the forces of Islam, consisting of the heroic personnel of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the self-sacrificing guards, and the mobilization units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, continued the third phase of the Val-Fajr IV operations west of Panjwin in a victorious attack against the forces of the Zionist regime ruling over Baghdad. After a heavy battle, they succeeded in liberating the important 1,740 and 1,680 heights and also the heights west of Kani Mangah and in taking up positions on these sensitive heights. In these successful operations, the Islamic combatants inflicted effective blows on the Iraqi 5th Infantry Brigade, 36th Infantry Brigade, and 421st Infantry Brigade and killed or wounded more than 800 enemy forces.

Clashes with the defeated enemy forces continue in the operational zones and, while maintaining complete superiority, our forces are pursuing their operations to achieve predetermined goals.

[Signed] Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Base

**Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,534**
*LD071745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Communique No 1,534 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the Val-Fajr IV operational zone yesterday, the fighters of Islam repulsed all enemy counterattacks and neutralized all attempts by the forces of Saddam to recapture the liberated areas. The forces of Islam defended the area under their protection, maintaining their control and superiority in new positions and reducing enemy fire with their own antimachinegun fire. In the Piranshah, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht operational zones, our units' artillery fire destroyed about 70 percent of an enemy motorpool and one of their mortars and killed a number of Saddamist forces. By opening fire over enemy infantry units and observation posts, our forces crushed the aggressors' activities.

Exchanges of fire continued yesterday on the Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts. Enemy losses on these fronts included 12 vehicles, 1 antiaircraft gun, 1 tank, and a number of slit trenches and foxholes.

On the southern fronts yesterday, enemy reconnaissance activities aimed at infiltrating the positions of our forces were discovered and neutralized. In the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational zones, while defending their positions, our fighting forces fired on enemy concentrations west of the Arvand Rud, destroying a number of light and heavy weapons bunkers of Saddamist forces.

Enemy long-range weapons' fire over Abadan yesterday damaged four houses and shops and set fire to a few areas of the city.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

**Musavi-Ardabili: U.S. Cannot Do Anything**
*LD081018 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Excerpts] Oil Minister Gharazi and the Majlis deputy from Mahneshan-e Zanjan Bayat met with Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili this afternoon. A group of training commanders and personnel of the state police university, accompanied by a group of women police officers, also met with Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili this afternoon.

Referring to the imposed war, Musavi-Ardabli said: Our country is at war; our battle fronts and the trenches are filled with the young and old of this land. These living martyrs are restless in their trenches and ready to defend this country's borders with tooth and nail.

Referring to the role of the Iranian nation in foiling plots hatched by the superpowers, the chief justice said: Our enemies do not dare say that we are not against imperialism. Like thieves, they are watching us from afar but do not dare come near us. Some time ago Reagan said: Our crisis with Iran has diminished but it will take some time for our relations with Iran to improve. That gentleman deceives himself too. As our dear and esteemed imam has said, America cannot do anything. We now repeat that same valuable sentence: As long as the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran exists, America cannot do anything. Therefore, the crisis between us has not diminished nor will we ever compromise with world imperialism.

**Radio Iran Views Closure of Hormuz Strait**
*GF071756 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Omani military spokesman said that the Islamic Republic has begun a series of movements and changing of positions in the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf. This military display, which might have some subversive (?aspects), may have been staged to restrict the Strait of Hormuz and more probably to substitute a new focus of attention.

Political observers and military experts do not lose sight of the fundamental fact that if Iran could attain a few minor victories

in the Val-Fajr IV operations, which were initiated on the eve of the Security Council session, it would be able to consolidate its stance as far as military haggling and transactions were concerned.

It is not surprising that not only did it not aid the Tehran regime's stance in the UN Security Council, it also served to seriously undermine the Islamic regime. According to reports, 30,000 more Iranians have been killed on the war fronts. The Khomeyni (?agent) in the United Nations, who had shown contempt and indifference toward the mediation efforts of Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme and who was unaware of the actual situation at the fronts, was reprimanded by the defeat-stricken authorities in Tehran and was forced to take back his words and to express his appreciation for the efforts of the Swedish prime minister and the UN secretary-general's emissary.

It is being said in the corridors of the United Nations that the mullahs have cut a sorry figure due to the shameful defeats that the Khomeyni forces have suffered on the fronts. The scale of the latest losses is such that the war-lusting mullahs and the religious extremists have been plunged into anxiety. This faction that had pinned its optimism on the Val-Fajr IV is now forced to create new artifices in other areas in order to follow up its disastrous policy on a new front.

The Strait of Hormuz apparently will remain the new front and a substitute for the southern and western fronts of the country indefinitely. But the question arises as to whether the object of the creation of such a flashpoint in the courtyard of the Persian Gulf in the manner that the mullahs claim is the closure of the Hormuz Strait. The answer is in the negative because according to a political observer of the mullahs, in the event of the closure of this waterway, which is the most important economic route and the real financial watering trough of the Khomeyni regime, they will be destroyed by hunger and no other government except the Islamic Government will be harmed by this eventuality.

### Interior Minister Wins Confidence Vote in Majlis

*LD081108 Tehran IRNA in English 1025 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 8, IRNA — Minister of the Interior 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri secured a vote of confidence in the open session of the Majlis here today following a lengthy debate on a censure motion presented by some 50 Majlis deputies. Out of the present 231 deputies in the session, 146 voted in his favour, 72 against and 13 abstention. The casting of vote followed two sessions of debate on the issue. The interior minister attended both the sessions and responded to questions of Majlis deputies concerning his mismanagament.

### JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI on Upcoming Elections

*GF071449 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 27 Oct 83 p 1*

[Editorial: "Choosing Peace"]

[Excerpts] Days pass and the time for the destiny-making Majlis elections is getting gradually closer. Under such circumstances, the imam of the nation has, like at all other sensitive times, shown the importance of the revolution to the Islamic nation with his guidance. At the same time, he has announced clear rules which is his view can lead to a peaceful elections, if they are followed exactly.

Now on the eve of the second elections, it seems that those factions who have been defeated and who have been stagnating and those who no longer have any hope of being welcomed by the nation are being tempted to reenter the scene in order to test their own credibility and maybe to create a poisonous propaganda atmosphere during the course of the elections. Their known and contemptible methods used during the course of the last elections are sufficient to attest to their nature. However, there are still delicate ways left through the use of which these groups imagine that they can voice a new and possibly even interesting tale to the nation. Yet, the known, recognized, and repetitive techniques are also used again in the hope of stressing false attractions. The first of these is to downplay the role of organization. Thosepolitically incapable ones hope to catch some votes in this way and even if they fail to win, such votes would at least reduce the votes of the candidates put forward by the united Islamic groups. Even though this method has been tested and found ineffective several times, we again hear murmurs of its resurrection. Another byproduct of this method is that some try to prove themselves by denying others since they are certain that in a peaceful election and in the presence of credible candidates, they will never have a chance to succeed.

It may be necessary to cite a number of historical examples in this respect to help one understand the issue. During the course of the first Majlis elections, some individuals, deviators, and those whose hypocrisy and treachery were revealed later after the removal of their masks, hoped to make themselves more prominent by denouncing party and organization. That is to say, in their opinion, if someone was publicly branded as a party man, this accusation was sufficient to hinder their candidacies. This occurred exactly at the time when the hypocrites were attempting to show the legitimacy of their own candidates through the use of organizations and even cooperation with leftist groups. At that time, the Islamic Republican Party and its first general secretary, the innocent martyr Beheshti, stressed the point that being a party member is not an issue but a point, and among two individuals the one who possesses all the necessary qualifications, even though he may not be a member of the party, is preferable to a less qualified one who is a party member.

The Islamic Republic Party showed its adherence to this principle in the selection of Martyr Raja'i. The party selected an individual who was not a party member but was the most qualified among the candidates for premiership in a peaceful election.

It is understandable that the politically bankrupt will attempt to question the honesty of the coming elections if they lose their hope of obtaining popular support. In this respect,creating a healthy atmosphere for the elections and especially exact attention to the conditions that the imam of the nation outlined in his speech yesterday can lead to the dishonoring and isolation of the politically corrupt. This is directly connected with the firmness of the votes of the future Majlis.

### Radio Iran Cites Majlis Criticism of Bazargan

*GF071743 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Nov 83*

[Text] Engineer Mehdi Bazargan and his Nehzat-e Azadi were once again the object of criticism at yesterday's Islamic Majlis session. 'Ali Akbar Purostad, the Tehran deputy, vehemently denounced Mehdi Bazargan and the liberals of Iran: This group wants to divert the course of the Islamic Revolution. 'Ali Akbar Purostad thanked the interior minister for the (?cancellation) of the election seminar of the Nehzat-e Azadi.

### NVOI Discusses Attack on Freedom Movement

*TA071205 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 5 Nov 83*

[Unattributed commentary: "A Condemned Act"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: The assault by elements of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers, or so-called hezbollahis, on the office of the Freedom Movement and the scuffling of Majlis Deputy Sabbaghian with his hezbollahi associates at the official session of the Islamic Majlis, have disgraced the Islamic Republic's rulers more than ever. Although in his Friday prayer sermon, Mr Rafsanjani made an enormous effort to somehow cover up this scandal, his explanations were themselves renewed confirmation of the escalation of terror and repression in our tyranny-stricken country.

Initially, we have to state that despite the basic difference in view that we have with the political line of the Freedom Movement and its leaders, both in domestic and foreign policies, we strongly condemn this barbarous and cowardly act by thugs of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers.

However, the thing that in connection with this incident can serve as a lesson to all opponents of tyranny and the system of force, corruption, and superstition-worshipping is a basic point which should be pondered. When elements and so-called hezbollahi club-wielders of rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran subjected offices of revolutionary organizations, including the Iranian Tudeh Party, to barbarous assaults and set them ablaze, we said: People and political and social organizations, be alert. Sooner or later these elements will do the same thing to others. In those days, leaders of this very Freedom Movement not only failed to voice any protest at the unlawful acts by club-wielders and armed thugs of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers but they even expressed delight.

Rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who pursue a policy of support for wealth-amassers and exploiters, that is, major capitalists and landlords, within the framework of blind fanaticism, superstition-worshipping, and medieval ignorance, cannot even tolerate an organization that seeks some kind of freedom within the framework of this very plundering system of capitalism and large landownership.

Yes, those who have currently seized authority in our tyranny-stricken homeland deny the right of enjoying political and social freedoms not only to revolutionary dissenting parties and organizations but even to organizations and currents that support the social, economic, and political system favored by the Islamic Government and which are no less superficial then the gentlemen themselves; and this is not surprising. The outcome of being anti-Tudeh and the result of the domination of superficiality and blind fanaticism, as well as enmity with learning and knowledge and theoretical views, is this very medieval tyranny, the establishment of the rule of terror and fear, violation of the law, and suppression of freedom.

If all those who still have any faith in these sons of imams ruling over our country — who only blind people and do not cure them — do not want to be subjected to the tannery like Mr Sabbaghian, they should come to their senses before it is too late and rise in struggle within a united popular, democratic, and anti-imperialist front to revive freedom and the gains of the revolution.

### NVOI Defends Broadcasting Reputation, Role

*TA042050 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 4 Nov 83*

[Unattributed commentary: "Historic Mission"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: After carrying out mental and physical tortures and using Islamic [word indistinct] on the chained Tudeh prisoners, the producers of the television shows for the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are presenting their listeners and spectators with the writings and ideas of the SAVAKist writers who are in the service of the regime's leaders as statements uttered by these chained captives — statements which are contrary to the inner beliefs and to the theoretical and human ideas of these prisoners.

Due to their abjectness and weakness of logic, they have not dared to try these individuals in a competent court in the presence of neutral international delegations, domestic and foreign correspondents, and the people, but instead have resorted to cowardly methods, and in the name of Islam at that. Rulers of the Islamic Republic and their elements, who are linked thousands of times over to their Western masters and to the domestic wealth-amassers whom they support — precisely like a robber who has stolen the people's property and upon fleeing shouted thief — portray every party, organization, and association that backs justice, independence, freedom, and social justice as dependent on foreigners.

Among other things, SAVAKists employed by the Islamic Republic who implement the orders of the CIA and Mossad, have raised the issue through their chained prisoners that allegedly the National Voice of Iran has been established to defend the interests of foreigners or, according to them, the interests of the Soviet Union. Although the nature of these shows for the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran has become clear to everyone, nevertheless we deem it appropriate, on the basis of indisputable evidence and documents, to prove the invalidity of claims by the producers of the Islamic Republic of Iran's shows. This is necessary because the leaders of the regime ruling over our country, by violating every article of the Constitution, have banned all revolutionary parties, organizations, and associations as well as all truthful newspapers. Under such conditions, these sorts of shows and

stage-managements by rulers of the Islamic Republic can very likely mislead simple-minded and inexperienced people.

Our homeland's people are aware that about a quarter of a century, that is 25 years, has passed since the National Voice of Iran radio began broadcasting. For 25 years, the National Voice of Iran — as evidenced by its talks and commentaries — has echoed the justice-seeking cry and appeal of our nation — farmers, workers, progressive intellectuals, shopkeepers, and toiling civil servants — in Iran and the world.

Precisely in the dark days of the tyrannical domination of the bloody regime of the annihilated Mohammad Reza Shah, the National Voice of Iran started its fruitful human and patriotic activity amid conditions in which the deceased shah's bloody regime had suppressed all progressive parties and organizations, all patriots and revolutionaries, and those who desired Iran's freedom and independence. The National Voice of Iran started its activity amid conditions in which the treacherous court — hand in hand with the filthiest exploiting elements and court preachers and with the weapon of inhuman tortures — had deprived our homeland's people from the possibility of the slightest protest and revolutionary action.

Under such conditions the National Voice of Iran summoned our homeland's people to struggle against the tyrannical and U.S. dependent regime of the annihilated Mohammad Reza Shah — at a time when our homeland's free people were being trampled upon by the boots of scores of thousands of military and nonmilitary U.S. advisers, when our country's army and security forces were under the control of America, and when Western monopolies and above all U.S. oil monopolies were plundering our country's national wealth, particularly oil. The National Voice of Iran raised the call of struggle against the annihilated shah's despotic regime at a time when the shah's regime had made Iran, through the CENTO Pact, dependent on the West, particularly America, and when Iran had actually been transformed into the region's gendarme.

For 25 years, the National Voice of Iran has sincerely and consistently defended the violated interests and rights of toiling workers and farmers, of hundreds of thousands of noble civil servants and shopkeepers and progressive intellectuals, as well as liberty, freedom of conscience, and human virtue. For 25 years, that is, since the time when the vast majority of the gentlemen clergy were either in the service of the court and major capitalists and landlords or at best were engaged in teaching at religious seminaries and collecting charity — the National Voice of Iran raised its justice-seeking cry as well as its cry for freedom and democracy and summoned the Iranian people to struggle against tyranny and the domination of foreigners and imperialism headed by America, to dispossess the feudalists and major capitalists, to struggle for political and social freedom, the freedom of popular and political parties and organizations, the expulsion of U.S. military advisers, and the termination of domination by plundering Western and foreign monopolies, and finally to struggle relentlessly for the establishment of a national and democratic system and for the founding of a free, independent, anti-imperialist,and prosperous Iran.

Our homeland's toiling and freedom-loving people are acquainted with this voice which is their own justice-seeking voice. The people know that on the eve of the revolution, the National Voice of Iran exposed with all its might the plots of America, the court and their elements, and called on all revolutionary and antidespotic forces to mobilize to overthrow the annihilated shah's hated regime.

During the post-revolution period, the National Voice of Iran always defended freedom, independence, and social justice and every popular and anti-imperialist measure. At the same time, it exposed and continues to expose with consistency every counterrevolutionary, antifreedom, and antipeople act by the government. Realizing its historical mission and amid conditions of the domination of despotism and superficiality and suppression of freedom in our homeland, the National Voice of Iran together with the people and all of our homeland's true revolutionary forces will remain until final victory in the trench of relentless struggle against tyranny and imperialism. The mindless utterances of the SAVAKist mullahs and CIA enforcers — expressed by whoever they may be — do not have the slightest value.

## RUDE PRAVO Cites Tudeh Committee Statement

*AU031515 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Nov 83 p 7*

[CTK West Berlin dispatch: "Tudeh Party Is Setting Up New Management Bodies; Declaration Issued by Foreign Committee of the Popular Party of Iran"]

[Text] West Berlin, 1 Nov (CTK) — Iran's People's Party [Tudovastrana] (Tudeh) is now undergoing an extremely complicated period in its history. Imperialism and reaction are not only casting doubt on the legality of this party's activities, they are also constantly and sharply attacking it. This is stated in the appeal issued by Tudeh's Foreign Committee and published in the paper *RACHE TUDEH*, which is published in the Persian language in West Berlin.

The document recalls that many of the party's representatives and members have been arrested and imprisoned. Some of the comrades have already died as a consequence of torture. But many of them are selflessly defending the ideals of their heroic party.

Tudeh's enemies are organizing shameful television "shows," in which they force certain Tudeh representatives to distort reality. It is quite clear that these people have been forced by violence to "confess." The gross distortion of Tudeh's history, attempts to compare the policy of aggressive American imperialism with the peaceful anti-imperialist policy of the Soviet Union, justification of the futile and destructive war with Iraq, which is advantageous only for imperialism and Zionism and is harming the Iranian Revolution, the renunciation of their own convictions — all this testifies to the fact that reprisals have broken certain people.

In its appeal, Tudeh's Foreign Committee declared that the arrested party representatives have no jurisdiction in the party during the time when they are imprisoned or tortured. Their

declarations, advice, and actions, which have obviously been foisted on them and which are contrary to their ideological and political conviction and with the policy pursued by the People's Party of Iran, have no legal authority. They cannot have any bearing on Tudeh's activity either in the past, at present, or in the future. The party's decrees will be issued by the appropriate party bodies which are gradually being set up. Until these bodies are established, the unpostponable functions of the Central Committee will be carried out by the Foreign Committee.

In conclusion, the document expresses the hope that all Tudeh members and followers will understand this decision and will do their utmost to enable the workers movement in Iran to free itself of the danger of imperialism and reaction.

### Trade, Economic Delegation Leaves for Turkey

*LD081123 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 8 Nov 83*

[Text] Tehran, nov 8 IRNA — An Iranian trade and economic delegation, headed by Heavy Industries Minister Behzad Nabavi, left Tehran for Ankara, Turkey today for talks with Turkish officials.

Nabavi said before his departure that the main purpose of the visit was to discuss the current agreements existing between the two countries. He added that no new agreements would be signed and existing agreements would not be revised.

Asked about the amount of trade so far completed between the two countries, he said out of the total of 2.5 billion dollars of trade agreed for this year, more than half of that amount had already been traded in the first six months of this year (March 21-September 22 1983).

The heavy industries minister said that it was highly unlikely that a joint transportation company would be created by Turkey and Iran, but he added the Iranian and Turkish transport ministers might sign an agreement for further cooperation in this field following their present and future talks.

He said goods bought by the Islamic Republic from Turkey were transported by railways to Tabriz without any apparent difficulty.

The delegation will spend three days in Turkey and hold talks with the Turkish trade minister, Nabavi said.

The Iranian delegation consists of officials from the industries, heavy industries, and commerce ministries as well as officials from the cereals organisation. The ambassador of Turkey in the Islamic Republic, Ismet Birsel, also accompanies the delegation.